

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application; cancel claim 7:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) An envelope-filling station for mail-processing systems, the envelope-filling station comprising;

a feeding device for horizontally feeding enclosures along a conveying path to a push-in arrangement, the push-in direction of which is in the conveying direction of the conveying path;

an envelope-separating arrangement for separating envelopes from an envelope stack and for producing a sequence of separated envelopes;

an envelope-conveying device which runs parallel to the conveying path, alongside the latter, and is intended for receiving the sequence of separated envelopes and for transferring the same to an intermediate envelope-conveying device wherein the intermediate envelope-conveying device transports the envelopes received from the envelope-conveying device, to the push-in arrangement; and

wherein, the intermediate envelope-conveying device has a conveying direction running at an angle in the range of from 15° to 75° to the conveying direction of the envelope-conveying device and, in a section which is adjacent to the push-in arrangement, the intermediate envelope-conveying device is designed such that a conveyed envelope can be displaced in its plane relative to the intermediate envelope-conveying device;

wherein, provided at the end of the intermediate envelope-conveying device, in the position opposite the push-in arrangement, is an angled stop arrangement, the angled stop arrangement having a first part which can be switched to the active or inactive state and against which, in its active position, the envelope is ~~fixedly~~ positioned for receiving an enclosure from the push-in arrangement, and is restrained from moving perpendicular to the push-in direction;

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wherein, once the envelope has been filled with the enclosure the angled stop arrangement can then be switched to the inactive state such that the filled envelope can be conveyed away from the envelope-filing station by an envelope-advancing device; and

wherein, once it has been switched to the active state and before being switched to the inactive state, a second part of the angled stop arrangement can be moved into an intermediate stop position in which at least one angled stop the second part, against which the envelope edge which is perpendicular to the push-in direction of the push-in arrangement is positioned, is moved back, by a comparatively small distance in relation to the push-in movement, in the push-in direction, the second part of the angled stop arrangement being movable independently of the first part to achieve the intermediate stop position.

2. (currently amended) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the push-in arrangement contains push-in fingers which can be moved back and forth parallel to the conveying direction of the conveying path, and receives the enclosures or sets of enclosures from the conveying path and has an operating stroke which is dimensioned to cooperate with the angled stop second part of the angled stop arrangement to insert enclosures in the envelope.

3. (previously presented) An envelope-conveying station according to Claim 1 wherein the push-in arrangement contains push-in belts which are parallel to one another, are provided with push-in fingers and circulate over the feeding device.

4. (previously presented) Envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the angled stop part, against which of the envelope is positioned, is formed by a stopping straightedge which can be switched over between two pivoting positions and can be pivoted about a horizontal pivot axis running perpendicularly to the push-in direction of the push-in arrangement, one pivoting position of the stopping straightedge, in which the latter is located at a greater distance from the push-in arrangement, corresponding to the intermediate stop position of the angled stopping arrangement.

5. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 4 wherein the drive of the angled stopping arrangement contains a rotary drive, in particular a rotary magnet, acting on the pivot shaft of the stopping straightedge.

6. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 4 wherein the pivot axis of the stopping straightedge is located above or beneath the level of the horizontal plane determined by an intermediate envelope-conveying table.

7. (cancelled)

8. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the envelope-conveying device contains endless, circulating conveying belts, which are arranged parallel to one another, and, in a section which is located upstream of the abovementioned end section, as seen in the conveying direction, abutment rollers which each interact with the top strand of the conveying belts and butt against the top side of the envelope.

9. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein, in the abovementioned end section, the envelope-conveying device has, as abutment means which interact with the top strand of the conveying belts and are positioned against the top side of the envelope, a housing-mounted abutment plate or spherical rolling bodies which are guided in cages of a housing-mounted abutment plate.

10. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the intermediate envelope-conveying device contains endless, perforated conveying belts running over vacuum chambers, in which case it is possible to adjust the vacuum by vacuum chambers located in the abovementioned end section, and/or there is a reduction in the number of adjacent perforated conveying belts in the end section, such that, in the abovementioned end section, the conveyed envelope can be moved with the movement component transverse to the conveying direction of the envelope-conveying device.

11. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the intermediate envelope-conveying device contains endless, circulating conveying belts, which are arranged parallel to one another, and, in the region which is adjacent to the envelope-conveying device, abutment rollers which each interact with the top strand of said conveying belts and of which the axes of rotation are oriented orthogonally to the conveying direction of the intermediate envelope-conveying device.

12. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 11 wherein in a region which is located closer to the end of the top strands of the conveying belts than to the start thereof, the intermediate envelope-conveying device has, as abutment means which interact with the top strand of the conveying belts and are positioned against the top side of the envelopes, spherical rolling bodies which are guided in cages of a support which can be raised and lowered.

13. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the intermediate envelope-conveying device contains endless, perforated conveying belts running over vacuum chambers, in which case it is possible to adjust the vacuum from the region of vacuum chambers located in the vicinity of the angled stop arrangement, and/or there is a reduction in the number of adjacent perforated conveying belts in this region, such that the conveyed envelope can be displaced in its plane relative to the intermediate envelope-conveying device, frictional forces being overcome in the process.

14. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the intermediate envelope-conveying device is controlled such that its conveying means are kept in operation even when the conveyed envelope has run up against the angled stop arrangement.

15. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the envelope-advancing device has a conveying direction which runs transversely to the push-in direction of the push-in arrangement.

16. (previously presented) An envelope-filling station according to Claim 1 wherein the angle of the conveying direction of the intermediate envelope-conveying device is in a range from 40° to 50°.